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| <b>TRANSMITTAL<br/>FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Application Number   | 10/786,732             |             |
|  | Filing Date          | February 25, 2004      |             |
|  | First Named Inventor | James E. Haley         |             |
|  | Art Unit             | 3727                   |             |
|  | Examiner Name        | Not Yet Assigned       |             |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission   | 4                    | Attorney Docket Number | 40030-10087 |

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation<br><input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to a Technology Center (TC)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>IDS Citation Form PTO 1449; Return Receipt Postcard |
| Remarks   |  |  |

### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Firm or Individual | James D. Ryndak<br>Ryndak & Suri, 30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2630, Chicago, IL 60602 |
| Signature          |   |
| Date               | May 24, 2004  |

### CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: May 24, 2004

|                  |                 |      |              |
|------------------|-----------------|------|--------------|
| Typed or printed | James D. Ryndak | Date | May 24, 2004 |
| Signature        |                 |      |              |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Application No. 10/786,732

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James D. Ryndak  
Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Rep.  
  
Signature

May 24, 2004  
Date

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: James E. Haley Confirmation No.: 2743  
Serial No.: 10/786,732  
Filed: February 25, 2004  
For: REUSABLE BOTTLE STOPPER  
GRP A/U: 3727  
Examiner: Not yet assigned  
Atty. Docket No.: 40030-10087

### INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, and in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the Office's attention is directed to the patents, publications and other information listed on the attached PTO-1449.

Regarding the document(s), publication(s) or other information listed on the attached PTO-1449, Applicant believes the same may qualify as "prior" art to this application and should be treated accordingly, although Applicant reserves the right to contest the prior art status of any document, publication or information cited herein.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b), this Statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of the application. No fee is required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0503.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

  
James D. Ryndak  
Reg. No. 28,754  
Attorney for Applicant

Dated: May 24, 2004

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

## Complete if Known

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/786,732        |
| Filing Date            | February 25, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor   | James E. Haley    |
| Art Unit               | 3727              |
| Examiner Name          | Not Yet Assigned  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 40030-10087       |

## U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
|                    |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
|                    | US-                   | D261,212                                 | 10/1981                        | Mills  |   |
|                    | US-                   | D418,417                                 | 01/2000                        | Hollinger  |   |
|                    | US-                   | 2,872,060                                | 02/1959                        | Brune et al.                                       |   |
|                    | US-                   | D437,782 S                               | 02/2001                        | Haley et al.                                       |   |
|                    | US-                   | 1,087,758 A                              | 02/1914                        | Goodwin  |   |
|                    | US-                   | 1,164,453 A                              | 12/1915                        | Belles   |   |
|                    | US-                   | 3,926,348 A                              | 12/1975                        | Lutzker  |   |
|                    | US-                   | 4,605,225 A                              | 08/1986                        | Zimmerman  |   |
|                    | US-                   | D296,524 S                               | 07/1988                        | Schneider  |   |
|                    | US-                   | D318,427 S                               | 07/1991                        | Sherburne, Jr.                                     |   |
|                    | US-                   | 5,417,860 A                              | 05/1995                        | Kay  |   |
|                    | US-                   | 5,609,759 A                              | 03/1997                        | Nohren, Jr. et al.                                 |   |
|                    | US-                   | 5,616,242 A                              | 04/1997                        | Mandola  |   |
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|                    | US-                   | D404,464 S                               | 01/1999                        | Black, Sr. et al.                                  |   |
|                    | US-                   | D464,262 S                               | 10/2002                        | Drennow  |   |
|                    | US-                   | 6,565,743 B1                             | 05/2003                        | Poirier et al.                                     |   |
|                    | US-                   | D487,227 S                               | 03/2004                        | Haley  |   |
|                    | US-                   |  |                                |  |   |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>Or Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|----------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> Number <sup>4</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |                |
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|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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